

EAGLE  
 DATING 126,220  
 YOUNG 89,421  
 TODAY 161,697

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**Catholics in Office?  
 Facts Don't Bear It Out**

CPYRGHT

This is a reply to the letter Sept. 19 by a Protestant minister, who stated his fears of a Catholic President have not been lessened since President Kennedy took office. He justified his remarks by pointing out the number of Catholics JFK has "appointed" to "fill key government positions" such as Speaker of the House, Senate Majority Leader, head of our Judicial Department, chairman of the Democratic National Committee and director of the CIA.

FIRST, the Speaker of the House is not appointed; he is elected by members of the House, which has always had a Protestant majority. I suppose it's also futile to point out that Mike Mansfield was chosen Senate Majority Leader by his Democratic colleagues (mostly Protestants) and not appointed.

As for President Kennedy's brother heading our Judicial Department, I thought that a Protestant gentleman named Earl Warren had that job.

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and that the post now held by Robert Kennedy was part of the executive branch.

The minister is correct about John Bailey being chairman of the Democratic National Committee, but I cannot be convinced that his is a "government position." Further, when Paul Butler (a Catholic) resigned from the chairmanship, John Kennedy's personal choice for chairman was Sen. Harry Jackson (a Protestant). Incidentally, shortly afterward, the Republican Party selected Congressman Miller (a Catholic) to be their national chairman.

AS FOR foreign aid being denied to countries whose separations between church and state are not as pronounced as ours (both Catholic and Protestant), about all that could be said of this arrangement is that there would be little or no foreign aid at all.

JOHN L. WILHITE  
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